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Prevention of armed conflict

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

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Promotion and protection of human rights

Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

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Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Letter dated 24 April 2014 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I refer to the letter dated 9 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/68/835-S/2014/261), which clearly demonstrates Armenia's persistent attempts to spread myths and fabrications and to present itself as a victim of the war of aggression it has unleashed against Azerbaijan. In a very peculiar manner, the Armenian side does not shy away from presenting its narrative of historic events by merely copying the language of the letters circulated by Azerbaijan, inverting the accents and contorting real facts. Albeit unsubstantiated and poorly concocted, the circulation of such letters is part of Armenia's policy of denial of its responsibility for and diverting the attention of the international community from atrocious crimes it has committed against civilians in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

In that regard, I would like to offer some observations that easily refute the false assertions made by the Permanent Representative of Armenia to depict the events referred to in his letter.

Firstly, the characterization of those events as "unprecedented" sounds ludicrous, since such a statement should be supported by substantive evidential material. Unsurprisingly, all that the Armenian side managed to extract from its

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imagination was a one-page document containing general expressions and devoid of any factual references.

Secondly, Armenia's reference to some reports by human rights organizations does not withstand criticism. The fact that those reports were based on the accounts of one or two "eyewitnesses" among Armenian militiamen would be enough to question their veracity. Significant discrepancies between the Armenian version and those reports, including statistical incongruence, also reveal apparent falsifications.

Thirdly, an analysis of all letters circulated by Armenia in the United Nations since the start of its military aggression against Azerbaijan shows that that Member State has not been consistent in bringing up the so-called "Maragha question" and has been quite silent about it until recent times. In contrast, Azerbaijan has steadfastly drawn the attention of the international community, including the United Nations, to serious violations of international law by Armenia against Azerbaijan and its people, in particular the genocide of Azerbaijanis in the town of Khojaly perpetrated by the Armenian armed forces on 26 February 1992. Our two recent letters addressed to the Secretary-General (A/67/753-S/2013/106 and A/68/768-S/2014/124) provide sufficient factual information based on eyewitnesses of the tragedy and first-hand reports from numerous independent sources, as well as the legal conclusions that leave no doubt about the responsibility of Armenia and its political and military leaders for the crimes committed in Khojaly.

As is well known, unlike Azerbaijan and other States in the region, Armenia is a uniquely mono-ethnic country, having achieved such a shameful situation by expelling all non-Armenians, including Azerbaijanis. Armenia has applied the same policy and practice of creating ethnically homogenous areas to the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, from which all non-Armenians were expelled and where it has set up a subordinate racist regime. Against this background, Armenia's accusations of Azerbaijan and other States of xenophobia, racism and hate speech are illustrative of the aggressor's false sense of reality. The international community, including the relevant United Nations bodies and other international organizations, has repeatedly expressed serious concern about the spirit of intolerance prevailing in Armenia and the discriminatory policies and practices pursued in that country.

Azerbaijan believes that no amount of concocted lies, unfounded letters and statements, misinterpretations of history or abusive diplomatic manoeuvres can alter the basic reality of Armenia's aggression against Azerbaijan. Therefore, Armenia must immediately withdraw its armed forces from the Daghlyq Garabagh region and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan, constructively engage in the conflict settlement process and comply with its international obligations to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the neighbouring countries, thus paving the way for the achievement of lasting peace, security and stability in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 34, 38, 67, 69, 77, 85 and 86, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Tofig **Musayev**
Chargés d'affairs a.i.
Deputy Permanent Representative